

REMARKS

Claims 14-26 are pending in this application. Claims 14-26 are rejected. Claims 14, 15, 17-20, 23, 25, and 26 are amended as indicated above to place the claims in better form for prosecution in the United States and to clarify what is claimed. New claims 27-29 are added. Applicants submit that no new matter is added as support for the amendments exists in the specification and claims as originally filed.

Priority Document

Applicants are filing concurrently herewith a certified copy of FR0402646.

Claim Objections

The Office Action objects to claims 14, 17, 18, 23, and 26 for the reasons set forth in the Office Action at page 2. Applicants have amended the claims to clarify what is claimed and respectfully request withdrawal of these objections.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 1

Claims 14-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for failing to comply with the enablement requirement. *See* Office Action at 3. According to the Office Action, support does not exist in the specification for “a water-soluble or water-dispersible block copolymer comprising one or more hydrophilic blocks A and one or more hydrophilic blocks B.” *Id.* The Office Action states that on page 12 of the specification, a water-soluble or water dispersible polymer comprising one or more hydrophilic blocks A and one or more hydrophobic blocks B is disclosed, and it appears the claims are unsupported by the specification. *See id.*

Applicants have amended claim 14 to recite, "one or more hydrophilic blocks A and one or more hydrophobic blocks B." Applicants have also amended page 3, line 29 of the specification to recite "one or more hydrophobic blocks B." Applicants respectfully submit that this amendment does not introduce new matter, because support exists the specification at, for example, page 12, line 13 and page 17, line 29.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2

Claims 14-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second ¶ as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention for the reasons set forth in the Office Action on pages 3-4. Applicants have amended claim 14 to clearly recite that the liquid hydrophobic phase is dispersed in the matrix and the weight ratio of the hydrophobic phase to the matrix is greater than 50/50.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

CONCLUSION

An indication of allowance of all claims is respectfully solicited. In the event any issues remain, Applicants would appreciate the courtesy of a telephone call to their counsel to resolve such issues and place all claims in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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